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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 107016,155

Date: March 26, 2002

Date Filed: 12/10/2001

Examiner:

Applicant: Frank Todaro et al.

Group:

Title: Slitter-Splicer for Joining the Ends of Sheets

Attorney No. 2106

To: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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TC 1700

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed is Form PTO 1499 with a copy of the patent which is listed on the form.

Applicant believes the Ikovitz patent is only of general applicability.

Applicant encloses, and hereby incorporates by reference, the IDS submitted in the related patent application, Serial No. 09/187,376 (resulting in Pat. No. 6,331,222), referred to in the first paragraph of the specification. Applicants do not believe the documents mentioned in the '376 file have any bearing on the patentability of the present invention, but they submit them in prudence. The '376 IDS refers to still another somewhat-related application. That application resulted in Pat. No. 6,142,288 which is for apparatus in which the '376 slitter was used. Applicant does not believe the '288 patent is a "related patent" to the present application, because it has less disclosure about slitters than does the '376 application and resultant patent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frank Todaro et al.

By C. G. Nessler  
Their Attorney

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited  
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Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 26, 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 09/187,376

Date: February 5, 1999

Date Filed: 11/06/98

Examiner:

Applicant: Peter Hotkowski et al.

Group: 3724

Title: Splicer for Joining Thin Sheets

Attorney No. 9834

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Enclosed is Form PTO 1499 together with copies of the documents listed.

Applicants submit advertising and instructional materials which they have. All of it has unknown date. For purposes of the present examination, applicants admit for all the documents a publication date of more than one year prior to the 11/06/97 filing date of their provisional application No. 60/063,986, from which they claim benefit. Applicants regret the poor quality of some of the reproductions, but they are commensurate with what applicants have.

Document AR is primarily about a free-hand-held splicer which operates in a mode that is very little related to applicants' splicer. The splicer carries a reel of tape and an extendible knife to cut the tape after the splice is done. See the top left sketch and words, and the lower right text and sketch.

The document AS is about a cart but it refers to a splicer which evidently works by vacuum means. A splice plate which employs alignment pins is referred to in the text at the upper right.

Document AT shows a stack feeder where it appears the stacks are translated manually. There is a stanchion at the left discharge end. Making a deduction from the title of the machine and logic, what appears to the whole or part of a splicer device overhangs the stack support table, near the midpoint of the machine.

The examiner is referred to the Preliminary Amendment where a related application is referenced.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Hotkowski et al.

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Sheet 1 of

FORM PTO-1449  
(REV. 7-2001)

**APR 11 2002**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
**2106**

APPLICANT  
**FRANK A. TODARO ET AL**

FILING DATE  
**12/10/01**

SERIAL NO.  
**10/016,155**

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS									
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE			
AA	5779851	7/98	IF KOVITS ET AL	156	505				
AB									
AC									
AD									
AE									
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION			
						YES	NO		
AL									
AM									
AN									
AO									
AP									

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		
AR		
AS		
AT		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1

PTO 1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 9834 SERIAL NO. 09/187,376

LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

APR 11 2002

APPLICANT: PETER HOIKOWSKI ET AL

FILING DATE: 11/06/98 GROUP: 3724

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
AA						
AB						
AC						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
AL							
AM							
AN							
AO							
AP							

OTHER PRIOR ART (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AR	THE LASERFEED COMPANY "HOW TO USE THE LASERFEED SPLICE RITE®", UNKNOWN DATE, INSTRUCTION SHEET, ONE PAGE
AS	LASERLINK CORPORATION "LC4000 SPLICE CART UNIT (SCU)", UNKNOWN DATE, CATALOG SHEET, ONE PAGE
AT	ENERGY SAVING PRODUCTS CO. "THE LASERFEED COMPANY DOCUMENT PROCESSING SOLUTIONS", UNKNOWN DATE, CATALOG SHEET, ONE PAGE

EXAMINER \_\_\_\_\_ DATE CONSIDERED \_\_\_\_\_

EXAMINER Initial of reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.